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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Tuesday 18th May 2021
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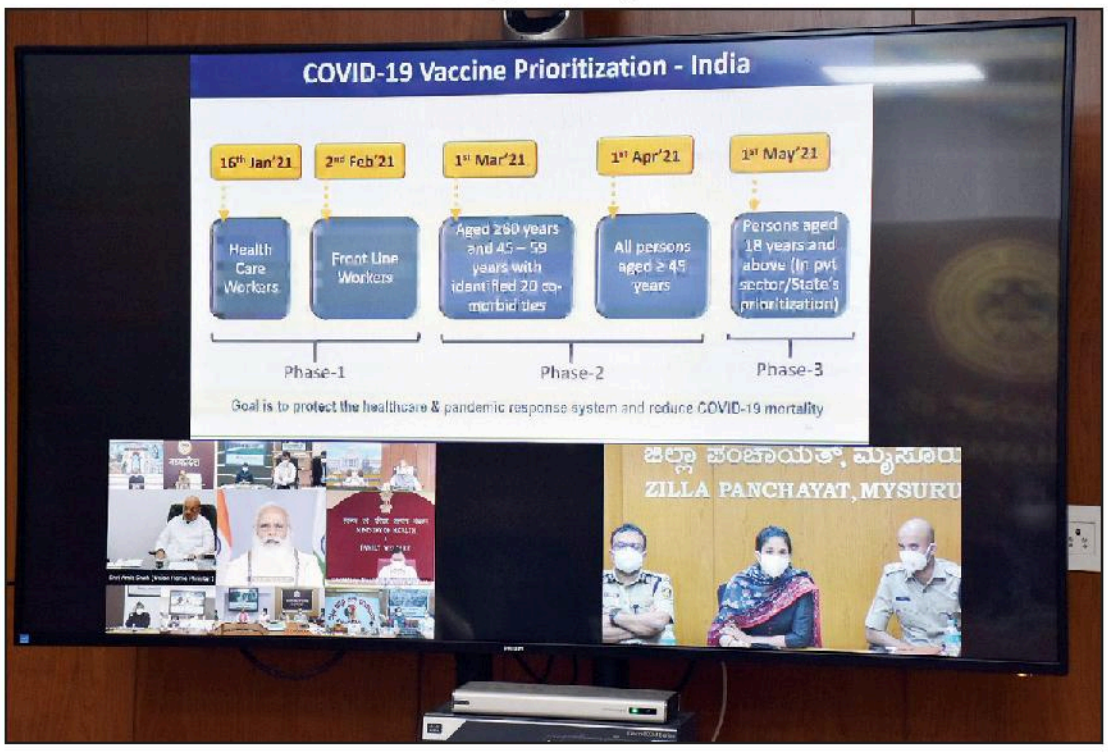
PM holds key meet with DCs amid COVID surge

Mysuru DC unable to interact during video-conference due to technical snag but speaks to PMO later


COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritization - India
16th Jan'21
2nd Feb'21
1st Mar'21
1st Apr'21
1st May'21
Health Care Workers
Front Line Workers
Aged 260 years and 45 – 59 years with identified 20 co-morbidities
All persons aged ≥ 45 years
Persons aged 18 years and above (in pvt sector/State's prioritization)
Phase-1
Phase-2
Phase-3
Goal is to protect the healthcare & pandemic response system and reduce COVID-19 mortality
ZILLA PANCHAYAT, MYSURU

Mysuru, May 18 (RK, Akshay & BCT)- Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with Deputy Commissioners along with field officials from 10 States and many Districts through video-conferencing this noon. The districts that were included in the PM's interaction had seen a huge surge in COVID-19 cases and widespread infection.

Though the video-conference with the PM was arranged at KSWAN (Karnataka State Wide Area Network) Video-Conference Hall on the first floor of the DC's Office and preparations began since yesterday, due to technical snags in the electronic equipment, the live event was shifted to the ZP Hall.

However, Mysuru DC Rohini Sindhuri could not personally interact with the PM though live visuals showed her and her team in the screen with the PM. But the PM spoke to Kodagu DC Charulata Somal where she outlined the measures taken to control the pandemic. Modi also spoke to her about rain relief measures in the wake of a good monsoon prediction.

CM B.S. Yediyurappa was also part of the conference and Deputy Commissioners of 17 districts — Mysuru, Kodagu, Uttara Kannada, Hassan, Ballari, Tumakuru, Kolar, Udupi, Bengaluru Urban and Rural, Shivamogga, Dharwad, Dakshina Kannada, Raichur, Mandya, Kalaburagi and Chikkaballapur participated and some of them gave a ground report to the Prime Minister on COVID containment measures and challenges.

(See PM on page 6)

Rohini Sindhuri highlights 'COVID Mitras' & 'Pancha Sutra'

Mysuru, May 18 (RK&BCT)- Though Prime Minister Narendra Modi did not come in contact with Mysuru DC Rohini Sindhuri during the video-conference this morning, the DC got a call from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) asking if innovative measures have been taken in Mysuru to combat COVID.

The Deputy Commissioner told the PMO officials that innovative 'COVID Mitras' have been established all over Mysuru City and district where patients are triaged, medical advice given and then medical care is provided. "This system is working well in Mysuru and even in rural areas where COVID Mitras have been set up," the DC informed.

Along with this, 'Pancha Sutra' is being advised to all those who have symptoms to be followed for five days as soon as they get symptoms. "This 'Pancha Sutra' has enabled us to reserve beds for those people who need them desperately," Rohini Sindhuri explained.

Any Village Panchayat that makes a village COVID-free, such village will get Rs. 25,000 as cash award and a citation. This is an incentive scheme to boost the confidence of the villages, the DC added.

Patients flouting home isolation to be moved to COVID Care Centres

Mysuru, May 18 (BCT) - Considering complaints that symptomatic, asymptomatic and mildly-symptomatic COVID-19 patients are not strictly following home isolation guidelines, the Mysuru District Administration has decided to shift such patients from their houses to the COVID Care Centres.

By violating guidelines, these infected persons are spreading the disease to family members and community. Several home isolated patients are even found roaming around, spreading the disease and thereby causing increase in the virus-positive cases. 80 percent of such patients will be shifted to COVID Care Centres. As on Monday, May 17, Mysuru has 8,315 persons in home isolation. An order in this regard has been passed by Mysuru DC Rohini Sindhuri today.

(See PATIENTS on page 6)

MCC launches door-to-door health survey for early detection of COVID cases

Mysuru, May 18 (PM, MTY & SSV)- For early detection and treatment of asymptomatic Corona patients, Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has embarked on a massive door-to-door health survey from today.

This was disclosed by MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag during Chamaraja Assembly Constituency COVID Task Force Committee meeting held at the Old Council Hall in MCC premises here yesterday under the Chairmanship of MLA L. Nagendra.

Shilpa Nag

"Two health volunteers equipped with one pulse oximeter and thermal scanner will visit every house and examine every person. In case of any difference in health condition, such persons will be referred to nearby Hospitals for treatment. This will help in early detection and treatment of asymptomatic persons as more deaths are reported among people in the age group of 25 to 45 years," she said.

(See MCC on page 6)

Raghu Kautilya bereaved

Mysuru, May 18- Nirmala Raghu (45), wife of D. Devaraj Urs Backward Classes Development Corporation Chairman R. Raghu (Kautilya), passed away in the wee hours of today at a Private Hospital in city following a heart attack.

She leaves behind her husband, one daughter, one son and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the family's farm land at Koodanahalli, opposite Mysore Airport at Mandakalli on Nanjangud Road this afternoon, according to family sources.

Nirmala Raghu

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Tuesday 18th May 2021

Online music concert by Ganabharathi on May 21

Mysuru, May 18- COVID has reappeared with its ugly face again but art should never stop as it rejuvenates people. It is an opportunity to support the artistes, who are facing hard times. Hence, Ganabharathi has resumed its online concerts.

On May 21 at 6 pm, a Nagaswaram concert will be presented by Vid. Krishnamurthy. He will be supported by Vid. Puttaswamy on dolu, Vid. Madhusudhan on violin, Vid. Vikram Bharadwaj on mridnaga and Vid. M.R. Mohan on morching. All the music-lovers are requested to watch the programme on Ganabharathifacebook and YouTube channel, according to a press release from T.S. Venugopal.

Vid. Krishnamurthy

Vid. Puttaswamy

Vid. Vikram

Vid. Madhusudhan

Vid. Mohan

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Children, humanity is going through an exceptionally challenging and painful period. Amma knows many of you have lost loved ones and many more are suffering with the disease. Regardless, is there any benefit in giving in to sorrow? If we allow ourselves to fall deeper into sorrow, we will only become weaker mentally. This is neither helpful to ourselves nor to others. Instead, maintain your discernment, cultivate an attitude of alertness and prepare yourself to face the situation. This is what spirituality teaches us.

Worrying is not an outlet through which we can drain away our sorrows. On the other hand, it is an outlet that will drain away all of our self-confidence. It will dissipate our inner strength and prevent us from finding solutions. Is there any point in being sad about a situation we cannot change? No. Likewise, do we ever worry about a situation we can solve? In fact, these are the only types of situations there are in life. So, there is never a benefit in worrying.

Having boarded a train, whether a person carries his luggage on his head or puts it down, the train is still ultimately going to carry the load. If we keep our luggage on our head, we will have to unnecessarily suffer its weight. But if we put it down, we will be comfortable. Similarly, understand that whatever happens in life is the will of the Paramatma. All we can do is put in proper effort; the rest we have to accept. If we can move through life with this understanding, offering our efforts to the Paramatma and accepting what comes back as prasadam, then we will have peace in our life. Whether we laugh or cry, the days will go by. Just like every other decision, happiness is also a decision. Resolve to remain happy, no matter what. Take a decision to remain courageous, no matter what. May my children move forward with this attitude and be healthy and happy. *—Mata Amritanandamayi in The Times of India*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Unevenly stitched jeans make legs look slashed

Seoul: South Korean clothing brand Leje has been the talk of the town on social media after unveiling two very bizarre new jeans designs that look like wearable trompe l'oeil illusions.

Called "Slash Jeans", the newest clothing items in Leje's 2021 collection actually make your legs look like they've been slashed by a Samurai or a Ninja Sword. At least that's what they look like in the photos posted on the company's Instagram, it remains to be seen if the effect is the same in real life.

So how did Leje's designers create this illusion? Well, it looks like they actually sliced the jeans and then stitched the pieces together unevenly, which is both simple and clever.

Rock climber scales cliffs without using hands

London: Johnny Dawes, one of the influential rock climbers in history and a true living legend in certain circles, has been getting a lot of attention in recent years for his no-handed climbing feats.

Dawes, aka the Stone Monkey, the Leaping Boy, the Dawes, has always been famous for his dynamic rock climbing style and bold ascents, but his most recent endeavors are probably the most impressive, at least to the untrained eye.

Now in his late 50s, the English rock climber has dedicated himself to the esoteric discipline known as no-handed climbing, which as the name suggests, is all about climbing steep rock faces without using your hands. It sounds crazy, but it looks even more so. There's nothing fake about Dawes, just a clever use of his body and a lot of guts.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Nosebleed is thought to be an ominous sign of a deep trouble inside the brain. In fact, in most instances, it's comes out of the nasal lining through abnormal blood vessels or triggered by high blood pressure. Bleeding mixed with brain fluid, after head injury suggests deeper injury.

By Dr. Dathathri H. A. - ENT, Head & Neck Surgeon & Cochlear Implant Surgeon

COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE
(A unit of Manipal Hospitals)

**** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature***

In a Scottish study, 44 percent of those who received a daily scalp massage using rosemary, cedarwood, lavender and thyme, with jojoba and grapeseed as a carrier oil, saw an improvement in their hair loss. The control group, using only the carrier oils, experienced a 15 per cent improvement.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	MAY 16	MAY 17
Day's Positive Cases	1,811	1,980
Total Positive Cases	1,12,127	1,14,107
Day's Discharges	2,228	2,388
Total Discharges	96,281	98,669
Day's Deaths	8	5
Total Deaths	1,405	1,410
Total Active Cases	14,441	14,028

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

Webinar on 'Entrepreneurship Potential in Renewable Energy Technologies" tomorrow

Mysuru, May 18- The National Institute of Engineering (NIE), Mysuru, in association with KITS NAIN, Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S&T, Government of Karnataka, is organising a webinar on "Entrepreneurship Potential in Renewable Energy Technologies" on Wednesday (May 19) from 6 pm to 8.15 pm.

The distinguished speakers are: Prof. S. Shamsundar, Head-CREST, NIE and Ravikumar Kandaswamy, Deputy Director, Energy & Infrastructure, Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialisation, Wardha, Maharashtra.

Topics to be covered are:

- Current Renewable Energy scenario in India and the world.
- Latest innovations in Renewable Energy Technologies
- Entrepreneurship potential in Renewable Energy Technologies

Those interested to participate in the webinar may click on the link [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83049530598?pwd=enZBM3ZtQzVqbnFucTdBL3dpaytpUT09] or contact Event Coordinator G. Vivek Bharadwaj, District Innovation Associate, KITS NAIN programme, NIE, on Mob: 85533-95747, according to Dr. N. V. Raghavendra, Principal, NIE.

REALLY...?

- ***Divorce on account of terrible coffee:*** *In ancient Arab culture, apparently still applicable in Saudi Arabia, woman can allegedly find legal 'grounds' for divorce if her husband fails to bring her fresh coffee in the morning.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Father to son: *Whenever I beat you, you don't get annoyed. How do you control your anger?*

Son: *I start cleaning the toilet seat with your toothbrush !!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 73.07
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 103.58
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 19.89
1 Euro	= Rs. 88.95

VOICE OF THE READER

Damaged Signboard crying for attention

Sir,

At the intersection of Ring Road-Bogadi Road, anyone can easily spot a damaged route-signboard which is serving no purpose to the road users over the past 3 years and even the supporting metal pole is getting rusted *(see picture)*. This shows the abject lack of upkeep and maintenance strategy of the authorities concerned.

The National Highway authorities have granted funds for re-asphalting the entire stretch of Ring Road shortly.

At least now will the MUDA or MCC authorities look into it and replace this broken signboard and other such boards if any, soon ?

—Dr. M.N. Manjunath
Bogadi 2nd Stage
27.4.2021

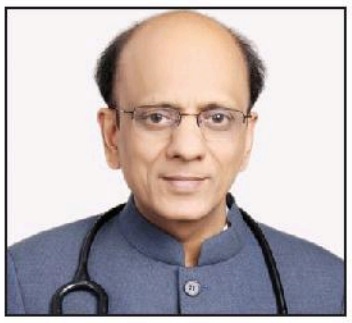
Former IMA National President
Dr. K.K. Aggarwal passes away

New Delhi, May 18 (UNI)- Padma Shree awardee and former National President of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) Dr. K.K. Aggarwal (62) passed away at 11.30 pm on May 17 in New Delhi.

He was admitted to AIIMS here and was on ventilator support for the past few days.

Ever since he became a doctor, Dr. Aggarwal had dedicated his life to the welfare of the public and raising health awareness. A Cardiologist, in 2005, he received the Dr. B.C. Roy Award and was conferred with Padma Shree in 2010.

Born on 5.9.1958, he completed his schooling in Delhi and did his MBBS from Nagpur University. Even during the pandemic, he made constant efforts to educate the masses and was able to reach out to over 100 million people through numerous videos and educational programmes and saved countless lives, a statement from his family said.



Dr. K.K. Aggarwal

Obituary

Shivakumar

Mysuru, May 18- Shivakumar

(50), a resident of Gowrishankarnagar and an employee of Academy Newspapers Private Limited, passed away yesterday following brief illness. A native of Shivamogga, he leaves behind his wife, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Mukthidhama in Vijayanagar 4th Stage, according to family sources.

Hanumantha Shetty

M.S. Hanumantha Shetty

(54), a resident of Gangothri Layout, passed away on Monday in city.

He leaves behind his wife, one son, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were held today.

Mysuru's oxygen quota hiked from 41 KL to 47 KL: MP

DC Rohini Sindhuri interacts with CM through video-conference, seeks more oxygen supplies

Mysuru, May 18 (BCT)- Mysuru will henceforth receive more oxygen and this has been confirmed by Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha in a media statement. He said that at present, 41 Kilo Litre oxygen was being supplied to Mysuru and henceforth, the district would receive 47 Kilo Litre (KL) of Liquid Medical Oxygen.

Pratap Simha, who is the Chairman of Oxygen and Remdesivir Supply Task Force for Mysuru said that they had placed a request before the State Government to allot 58 KL of medical oxygen to Mysuru. But the State-level oxygen supply Nodal Officer Manish Moudgil had sanctioned only 41 KL despite the increased demand and also due to spike in people who need oxygen.

"I had spoken to Manish on Sunday and apprised him of the situation in Mysuru and had requested him to increase the quota. The same issue was raised by Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr. B.S. Manjunathaswamy during a video-conferencing with Manish and he has pushed up the quota by 47 KL," the MP said. It has been conveyed to the Nodal Officer that if Mysuru gets 58 KL oxygen, the district will be able to tide over the oxygen crisis, Pratap Simha added.

Pratap Simha, MP

Mysuru does not have any Liquid Medical Oxygen manufacturer, but has five refilling plants that source bulk medical oxygen from different places. It is a crisis situation if oxygen is delayed from other places even by a day, he noted.

Virtual meeting with CM

Meanwhile, Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri has requested Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa to sanction more oxygen supplies to Mysuru. She was interacting with the CM during a video-conference yesterday that was held a day before Prime Minster Narendra Modi spoke with Deputy Commissioners of those districts where COVID has spiked exponentially.

The DC told the CM that at present, Mysuru district has a total of 3,500 oxygenated beds and has been receiving 46 KL oxygen. There is an urgent need to augment oxygen supplies to cater to the demand from patients and hospitals.

Rohini Sindhuri also explained to Yediyurappa about COVID Mitra Centres at each Primary Health Centre in Mysuru city and at Taluk and Hobli level. These Mitras provide initial treatment after triaging the patients as per the diagnosis. Over 150 Primary Health Centres have been established as COVID Mitras all over Mysuru District, the Deputy Commissioner said.

She claimed that more than 10,000 people have been benefited. The DC also told the CM that earlier, the urban areas were registering the highest spike in COVID positive rate — 90 percent — and added that now, the rural areas are reporting 50 percent of the cases. She told the CM that the District Administration has taken measures to prevent the further spreads of the disease in rural areas.

City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta, Superintendent of Police C.B. Ryshyanth, Zilla Panchayat CEO A.M. Yogesh, Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr. Manjunathaswamy, Mysuru City Corporation Commissioner Shilpa Nag, Mysore Medical College and Research Institute Dean Dr. C.P. Nanjaraj and MCC Health Officer Dr. D.G. Nagaraj were present at the virtual meeting.

State announces
compensation to family of dead in Taukate cyclone havoc

Mangaluru, May 18 (UNI)- The Karnataka Government on Monday announced compensation to the family members of the dead in Taukate cyclone havoc.

Speaking to newsmen after a review meeting, Revenue Minister R. Ashok, who visited affected places earlier, announced the compensation of Rs. 10 lakh each to the next of kin of the dead.

He said the Government has also announced Rs.5 lakh for houses completely damaged during the cyclone havoc and Rs. one lakh to the partially damaged houses.

Earlier, Ashok who arrived here in the morning to get first-hand account of the losses due to the impact of cyclone Tauktae in the district, held a meeting with officials at the NMPT office.

COVID-19 HELPLINE

MYSURU

0821-2424111
0821-2957811
0821-2957711

For victim's funeral contact MCC

94498-41195
94498-41196
0821-2418800

MANDYA

District War Room
08232-229393
08232-223033

Mandya Taluk
08232-224248

Maddur Taluk
08232-232010

Malavalli Taluk
08231-242277

Srirangapatna Taluk
08236-252029

Pandavapura Taluk
08236-255128

Nagamangala Taluk
08234-285045

K.R. Pet Taluk
08230-262227

KODAGU

COVID Hospital
08272-220606

District Helpline
08272-221077

Madikeri
08272-228396

Virajpet / Ponnampet
08274-256328

Somwarpet / Kushalnagar
08276-282045

CH'NAGAR

District Helpline
08226-223160
08226-1077

Kollegal Taluk
08224-252046

Gundlupet Taluk
08229-222225

Yelandur Taluk
08226-240029

Hanur Taluk Control Room
08224-268032

District Administration working overtime to control COVID, says MUDA Chairman

Mysuru, May 18 (MK&DM)- Asserting that the District Administration is working overtime to control the spread of the second wave of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev, who is also in-Charge of Bed Management in the district, has asked Opposition parties to come up with valuable suggestions instead of criticising the Government in this hour of crisis.

Addressing a press meet at MUDA Office here yesterday, Rajeev said that no one had anticipated the severity of COVID second wave. Pointing out that the Union Government had taken precautionary measures, he accused the Congress and JD(S) of indulging in misleading the public instead of joining hands in the battle against the deadly virus.

Accusing the Congress of leading a misinformation campaign against Corona vaccine at the beginning, he said that now the Congress leaders are criticising the Government for shortage of vaccine and dearth of beds, ICUs, ventilators and oxygen.

Challenging the Opposition leaders to start a 5-bed hospital in these trying times instead of taking on the Government, Rajeev wanted to know the measures and plans that the Opposition parties have for stemming the spread of the virus.

Dismissing Congress charges that bed-blocking scam had taken place in Mysuru too as utterly false, Rajeev maintained that BJP will be the first to launch a crackdown on bed blocking mafia, if at all it existed.

D. Devaraj Urs Backward Classes Development Corporation Chairman Raghu Kautilya, who is in-Charge of War Room Management, said that Mysuru topped the list for highest number of vaccinations in the State. Noting that the District Administration has set up COVID Mitra Centres, which is the first-of-its-kind in the State, he said that based on the overwhelming response, these centres have now been set up at Primary Health Centres too.

Maintaining that the DC and all other officials are working hard for checking the spread of virus, Raghu accused the Congress leaders of demoralising the officials through unwarranted and unnecessary comments.

Stating that this is not the time to indulge in politics, he said that it is unfair to target DC Rohini Sindhuri at a time when she is doing everything possible in this hour of crisis. Contending that the DC is also a Kannadathi, who knows Kannada very well, Raghu said it is not right to criticise a top official in the name of caste, language or region.

Jungle Lodges and Resorts Chairman M. Appanna, who is Incharge of the conduct of last rites of COVID dead, said that it is not the time for political mud-slinging. Noting that the entire globe is battling the deadly virus, he said that all political leaders must disengage from targeting officials and the Government and instead should support the initiatives taken for combating the deadly virus.

Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK) Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy and others were present.

MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev yesterday launched the ambulance service being provided by ZAK Chairman L.R. Mahadevaswamy Fans Association. While the ambulance service is free of cost for families of vehicle drivers, who are more than 2,500 in number, the service is available to the rest upon payment of only fuel charges. For more details about the service, **call Mob: 99003-45057 or 99001-18444.**

The Oximeter blame game

'Don't charge over Rs. 1,700 for Oximeter'

Mysuru, May 18 (RK&SSV)- Suvarna Karnataka Chemists and Distributors Association General Secretary S. Manjunath has appealed to owners of all medical stores not to charge more than Rs. 1,700 for oximeter in view of current crisis.

S. Manjunath

But Chemists say that the distributor has hiked the price of the product and the distributors say that the companies have hiked its prices. Now, the blame game begins.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Manjunath said that people were struggling due to lockdown in the State. Under this condition, it was their duty to extend co-operation by charging less on small medical items like oximeter, which was very much required for patients under home isolation. It has come to the notice of the Association that some shops were charging more for oximeter by taking undue advantage of the situation. "Please sell it at Maximum Retail Price (MRP) and not more than it," he added

Manjunath said oximeter of different models were sold from Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 3,500 causing confusion among people. Fleecing people in this hour of crisis was against their professional ethics and it was advisable to charge uniform rate for oximeter.

He said doctors were prescribing Remdesivir injection despite knowing that it was not available across the counter thus making people run from one shop to another with the prescription. So, doctors must not prescribe this injection, he added.

Continuing, Manjunath said that there is scarcity of paracetamol tablets, antibiotics, Vitamin C tablets, germicide gargle, anti-bacterial tablets, washable hand gloves etc., which is very essential to asymptomatic patients who are in home isolation. This shortage is also causing a lot of problems to them.

Meanwhile, Mysuru City and District Retail Chemists Association Secretary Arun said that there are over 1,000 medical stores in city and on an average 3-4 oximeters are sold in each medical stores.

"There is a huge demand for oximeters and distributors have hiked their prices, hence we too have hiked the prices. Distributors say that they have hiked the rates as the manufacturers have hiked the prices of their products," Arun clarified.

He further said that an oximeter which was sold at Rs. 800 now costs between Rs. 1,200 and Rs. 1,400. Oximeters of well-known companies cost between Rs. 2,300 and Rs. 2,500. "We are buying for higher prices and selling the same by keeping 20 percent profit," Arun added.

Has poaching spiked during lockdown?

Two cases reported in a single day in Kodagu; four arrested, four absconding

Poachers arrested from Nagarahole National Park. Picture right shows seized meat, deer pelt and poachers from Jenukallu Reserve Forest with the Forest staff.

Mysuru, May 18 (Akshay& BCT)- Smoke-and-sound-free environs, wild animals moving around freely inside the National Parks and Tiger Reserves indicate that nature is thriving during the Coronavirus pandemic with lack of human movement.

For many species, lockdown may indeed be good news but for many other wild animals, however, that couldn't be further from truth. While in towns bordering forests lockdown means less traffic on the roads and less pollution, in rural parts, it means some people are being driven to extremes to support themselves through poaching.

It is either to fend food for their families or it is just pleasure hunt. Poaching incidents during lockdown has gone up especially in the areas bordering the Tiger Reserves and Reserve Forests during lockdown giving credence to the theory that lockdown has made people restless and they are desperate for meat and some action. And for this, they venture into the jungles to hunt.

Two incidents of poaching have been reported in Kodagu yesterday, where four poachers have been arrested along with the hunted animals. The hunt is on to identify other people involved in poaching and even those who shared the wild meat as it is an offence under the Wildlife Act, 1972.

At Jenukallu Reserve Forest

The first incident of poaching was reported from Somwarpet Taluk where two poachers had ventured into the Jenukallu Reserve Forest on the lookout for their quarry. Based on a tip-off, the Forest Department staff raided the house of one Kaverappa alias Thamoo from Hosahalli village and seized two kg spotted deer (Chital) meat and three kgs of barking deer meat (Kadu Kuri).

The staff also seized Smooth-Bore Breech Loading (SBBL) Gun, three live bullets along with deer pelt. Another poacher Suresh, who had accompanied Kaverappa, was also arrested. Range Forest Officer Bharat produced the accused before a Court that sent them to 15-day judicial custody. The accused have confessed that the meat was shared among some villagers for them to sustain lockdown.

Nagarahole National Park

The second incident was reported from Nagarahole National Park in the wee hours of May 17, where poachers ventured into the woods at 2 am. They fired at a fawn while the rest of the herd panicked and fled the spot. However, the gunshot was heard by vigilant Forest Department watchers and they alerted the teams.

In all, six poachers had entered the forest via Birunani village and they had come to the forest border in a car. Rushing to the spot with patrol vehicles, the forest staff managed to arrest K. Preetham and A. Robin Thimmaiah. The other four poachers vanished in the darkness. The poachers are from Birunani and Badagarakeri villages and efforts are on to arrest the other accused.

They have seized the car and also the carcass of the fawn. Deputy Range Forest Officer Kantharaj, Forest Guard Badesaab, Watcher Chikkamada and driver Abhishek participated in the raid.

Forest staff on alert

"During lockdown, people can't go to work, especially those in the rural areas — who rely on going out every single day to make ends meet and come back with some food. Lockdown has robbed them of livelihood and poaching gives them some food though it is illegal," said forest officers.

Poachers have seen park closures, the diversion of law enforcement to COVID-19-related duties and reduced ranger patrols as ideal opportunities for poaching. Officials admit that they are in receipt of intelligence that known poaching organisers are taking advantage of the current situation. "But we are on high alert," they said.

Incidentally, a report by TRAFFIC, a leading wildlife trade monitoring network, has recorded a significant increase in poaching in India during the over two-month lockdown period last year.

Animal poaching registers a sharp increase during lockdown. The report titled "Indian Wildlife Amidst the COVID-19 Crisis: An analysis of status of poaching and illegal wildlife trade" points out that reports of poaching for consumption and local trade have more than doubled during lockdown. The researchers analysed compared media reports of poaching incidents in a six-week period before the lockdown (Feb. 10 to Mar. 22) with those from six weeks during the lockdown (Mar. 23 to May 3).

Fishing too thrives at Harangi backwaters

Not only hunting, fishing activity by youths has increased in Harangi backwaters and also at Siddapura where River Cauvery flows. However, Angling Mahseer variety is prohibited as it is on the list of endangered species. Youths form small groups and enter the backwaters and river at shallow places to catch fish. Earlier, they used to go to these places during holidays, but now during lockdown, they do it every day.

Local youths from Nakoor, Shirangala, Suntikoppa, Hosathota, Kusboor and Madapura come to the backwaters to fish on the 5.6 km Harangi River stretch from the Harangi Dam to Koodige Bridge.

Fish caught at Harangi and Siddapura River Cauvery

After a day-long catch, they sell the catch at designated places — mostly in front of houses — where the trade has thrived silently. The catch is usually good as small fish and medium varieties are aplenty in the backwaters due to copious rain. Of course, it is a people-friendly price and where families get regular supply of fish and the youths get some small income for them to tide over the crisis of joblessness during the lockdown.

MCC launches door-to-door health survey for early detection of COVID cases

- Health volunteers to test temperature and pulse rate
- Good response for Civic Body's Telecare service

(Continued from page 1)

The MCC Commissioner said the second wave of COVID-19 was very dangerous and targeting people in the age group of 25 to 45 years. The health volunteers, depending upon the health condition of the person, will decide on the line of testing — either RT-PCR, Rapid Antigen Test or any other further tests — for early detection of the virus and to ensure recovery.

Ward-wise Task Force

Speaking to *SOM* this morning, MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag said, "The basic idea of Corona Ward-wise Task Force Committee headed by area Corporator is to draw a micro-planning to bring down positive cases and casualty rate in their respective Wards. Training has been imparted for members of Task Force by resource persons from World Health Organisation (WHO) and Bengaluru-based Janaagraha Foundation."

"With Mysuru clocking nearly 2,000 Corona positive cases daily and increased mortality rate, the Task Force will sit and chalk out micro-planning such as total number of houses to be covered and number of teams required to complete this house-to-house survey," she stated.

"There are 2,09,000 dwellings within the City Corporation limits having a population of 13.50 lakh people. The first phase of survey will be completed within 15 days. More than completing this survey, the purpose is to check the surge of positive cases and deaths," she said.

The Task Force consists of Revenue Inspector, Health Inspector, Police and ASHA worker. Each medical volunteers team is given a pulse oximeter and thermometer to examine people and these items will be given by the MCC.

The volunteers and Task Force members will be given safety kit that contains face shield, mask, sanitiser and hand gloves. After every checking, the oximeter will be sanitised, the Commissioner said adding that the house-to-house survey will go on till the pandemic comes under check.

Good response

Shilpa Nag said there has been a good response to MCC's Telecare service introduced a few days ago for the convenience of home quarantined Corona positive patients. This service is available from 8 am to 12 midnight. Over 40 doctors answer calls from patients and address them patiently. In fact 90 percent of the calls were from home isolated patients, she said adding that all of them have been given medical kits.

Spray disinfectants

MLA Nagendra directed officials at the meeting to sanitise and do fogging in every Ward as precautionary measure. Besides, Rs. 5 lakh reserved for each Ward for development must be spent on Corona control programmes, he added.

23 deaths

As many as 23 residents of Chamaraja Constituency have succumbed to COVID during the ongoing second wave. This Constituency now has 2,041 positive patients out of which 1,011 are home quarantined and rest were under treatment in various Hospitals.

PM holds key meet with DCs

(Continued from page 1)

The video-conferencing was scheduled at 11 am but began at 11.15 am and ended at 12.50 pm. The PM complimented many DCs for showing great initiative and for coming up with imaginative solutions to combat the pandemic. Before the session began, Modi told the DCs that he may not have time to interact with all of them but will speak to a couple of them.

"You have seen here how districts are devising better strategies to battle the contagion and a better appreciation of such initiatives will help towards developing effective response plan, targeted strategy implementation and support necessary policy interventions, Modi said.

"Corona is like a war and you guys are like field commanders fighting this war. In several districts, many effective measures have been taken to control the spread, to prepare the healthcare facilities for handling the raging second wave, to ensure availability of healthcare workforce and a seamless supply chain for logistics. These districts in their relentless efforts to manage the situation also have success stories that could be replicated across the country," Modi said.

On vaccination, the PM told the DCs that a fortnight before the vaccination stocks arrive, the DCs will be informed about the quantity of dosage. "You have time to plan vaccination in a phased manner. Call only those who are eligible for vaccination to avoid confusion and chaos at vaccination booths. Ensure that maximum people are vaccinated and vials are not wasted."

On monsoon and rain damage, the DCs were forewarned by the PM to prepare them for power outages. "Many hospitals, especially in rural areas will have to be equipped with alternative power supply line in the event of power supply being cut off due to rains. There are many patients in those hospitals that need electricity for treatment and medical care. Tragedies should not occur and steps must be taken before hand to save lives," Modi added.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Dr. B.S. Manjunathaswamy, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta, Superintendent of Police C.B. Ryshyanth and Zilla Panchayat CEO A.M. Yogesh were present.

Mysuru to get 100 ventilators in two days: DHO

Dr. Amarnath

Mysuru, May 18 (PM&SSV)- Mysuru District will be getting 100 new ventilators within two days, said District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. T. Amarnath.

Speaking at the Chamaraja Assembly Constituency COVID Task Force Committee meeting held here yesterday, the DHO said that all Taluk Hospitals have three ventilators each. There are 225 ventilators in hospitals including 136 in Government Hospitals, he added.

"Recently, the District Administration had submitted a proposal to the State Government to supply an additional 100 ventilators and the same has been approved. All of them will be installed at Super Speciality Hospital," he said.

Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI) Dean and Director Dr. C.P. Nanjaraj said that the capacity of the Super Speciality Hospital was limited and only 30 new ventilators of the total 100 ventilators could be installed or else new problems such as power supply could crop up.

Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra took up the issue of crowding of people at COVID Ward in K.R. Hospital which was making it a super spreader as for 700 patients, there will be hundreds of their relatives and friends at the Ward. He directed Dr. Nanjaraj to take steps in this regard.

Replying to the MLA, Dr. Nanjaraj said that the Hospital was facing severe shortage of Group 'D' employees. People were not coming forward to take up this job and added that he personally visited the ward and dispersed the crowd from the COVID Ward besides warning them.

Hypertensive people more prone to COVID complications: Expert

Pune, May 18 (UNI)- As the world reels under the effects of COVID-19, people with high blood pressure are more prone to facing severe complications. Many of the elderly are found with hypertension, which makes them more susceptible to COVID-19.

COVID patients with hypertensive comorbidity condition have increased up to 10 percent in the second wave compared to first wave in 2020. The COVID patients with hypertension will have more symptoms of cardiac issues such as accumulation of fluid in the lungs adding to the breathlessness, Executive Member of the Indian Society of Hypertension Dr. Naresh Purohit said.

On the occasion of World Hypertension Day (May 17), acclaimed Epidemiologist Dr. Purohit said that people with COVID-19 and hypertension with low heart function tend to develop serious heart problems. During the past few weeks in Maharashtra, patients with these complications have doubled up.

Cardiac patients who have high blood pressure without any treatment also tend to develop renal issues, when they have uncontrolled high blood pressure, it can cause arteries around the kidneys to narrow, weaken or harden. These damaged arteries are not able to deliver enough blood to the kidney tissue.

"Hypertension is an inflammatory disorder. When the inflammation increases in the body, even the cardiovascular system goes in for inflammation, the reason for heart attack or stroke in COVID positive patients. Even COVID patients with hypertension should take proper medication and go for regular walks so that it will lower the risk of cardiac issues and kidney failure," he added.

Dr. Purohit averred that COVID is known to infect the cells that help manage blood pressure. This is how COVID and blood pressure can be linked. "Since the immunity is weak, people with high blood pressure and other conditions may fall prey to COVID-19. Many people above 60 have high blood pressure and many who are admitted to hospital with COVID-19 have pre-existing hypertension. Furthermore, there are many medications that also raise your risk of hypertension" he said.

Patients flouting home isolation to be moved to COVID Care Centres

(Continued from page 1)

The DC order said that those in home isolation in the cluster areas will be shifted in the first phase. "We have realised that many COVID-19 patients who are asked to be in isolation in their respective houses are not strictly following the guidelines. They are home only when the teams concerned visit them. They are spreading the infection to others by freely roaming outside and mingling with others. This has caused the further spread of the infection in the district. That is why we have decided to shift such patients who are now in home isolation to COVID Care Centres," it said.

Coronavirus positive patient under home isolation can be discharged after 10 days of the onset of the symptoms if no fever occurs for three consecutive days. Thereafter, the patient is advised to isolate at home and self-monitor for seven more days. These guidelines are not being followed, forcing the DC to crack the whip.

Those who are living in areas where relatively more positive cases are reported will be shifted to care centres in the first place with the help of the Police Department. Police Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, respective Tahsildars, Taluk Officers, local Police and other officers in Panchayat levels are expected to coordinate and ensure that people who resist coming to Care Centres have to be convinced and brought to Care Centres.

Ill-equipped Private Hospitals responsible for spike in deaths of Corona patients: MLA

Mysuru, May 18 (PM&SSV)- Holding a few ill-equipped Private Hospitals responsible for spike in deaths of Corona positive patients, Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra has urged the District Administration to shut those Hospitals or prevent them from admitting patients. He was speaking at Chamaraja Assembly Constituency Covid Task Force Committee meeting held here yesterday. "I have noticed that deaths are occurring more in those private hospitals which don't have the supply of Remdesivir injection or oxygen from the Government, but still treating Corona positive patients. Tell them to stop treatment of such patients immediately or shut the hospitals in case they failed to adhere," the MLA said.

The MLA said that a few hospitals, with less than 30 bed strengths and without supply of Remdesivir injection, oxygen and medicines, were treating patients. They wash off their hands if patient condition worsens. Many Hospitals, which were not part of Mysuru Association of Hospitals and Nursing Homes (MAHAN), do not get Remdesivir injection or oxygen supply. Either District Administration must supply those essentials to such hospitals or close them, or let the District Administration take over these hospitals and keep 50 percent of beds for the Government referred patients, he added.

District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. T..Amarnath clarified that 43 MAHAN Hospitals were empanelled with Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST) and hence they get the supply of Remdesivir injection, oxygen and medicines under the Government quota. Recently, the State Government has issued a circular adding Private Hospitals with less than 30 beds, to be brought under the ambit of SAST and supply them with Remdesivir injection, medicines and oxygen on par with other Private Hospitals in the interest of poor patients. Work in this direction was going on and is likely to be over within a week.

He said that four Officers have been deployed in War Room, but still people were directly going to K.R. Hospital and District Hospital for treatment. Through War Room, beds have been arranged for 120 patients so far. Nodal Officers were appointed to 43 Private Hospitals to check the allotment of beds under the Government quota.

MLA Nagendra said that it has been brought to his notice that patients shifted from Mandakalli COVID Care Centre to some Private Hospitals under the Government quota, have been given hefty bill and asked to clear it immediately. Strict action must be initiated against such hospitals without any mercy, he noted. He said that patients were under trouble as Private Hospitals were not ready to take responsibility for the shortage of oxygen, ventilators. In case of shifting patient from one hospital to another, the War Room must be informed about it by the hospital management. Besides, the hospital to which the patient is shifted, must have all facilities.

Mayor Rukmini Madegowda, MCC Commissioner Shilpa Nag, MCC Health Officer Dr D.G. Nagaraj, MMC&RI Dean and Director Dr. C.P. Nanjaraj and other officers were present.

More than 20 Forest personnel of Nagarahole National Park are COVID infected: DCF

DCF Mahesh Kumar

The Forest staff conducting combing operation to trace an elusive tiger at Nagarahole Reserve Forest using tamed elephants.

Hunsur, May 18 (Mahesh Hanagod&DM)- There a total of 605 Forest staff coming under eight ranges of Nagarahole National Park and the Office of Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) at Hunsur, out of whom only 313 have been vaccinated and the remaining 292 personnel are yet to be vaccinated.

Out of the 151 staff serving in Anechowkur Forest Range, only three have been vaccinated, while 148 are still waiting for jabs. The situation is no different in other Ranges as none of the 55 staff in Antharasanthe Range have been vaccinated, while only 4 out of 91 in Hunsur Range have received jabs. Also, only four of the nine staff attached to Social Forestry Scheme in Hunsur and H.D. Kote taluks, have been administered vaccination. Twenty of the 40 staff in Hunsur Division have been vaccinated, which means that 50 percent of the staff are yet to get jabs.

The four month period from February to May is the most challenging for forest staff as they have to deal with Forest fires, wild animal attacks, poachers etc. This is also the period which witnesses man-animal conflicts the most. Also, there are many other challenges such as ensuring water availability for wild animals, tackling forest crimes and the precautionary measures to be taken ahead of monsoon.

It is the Watchers, Foresters and other lower rank personnel who will be in the forefront of facing these challenges and as such they are always exposed to risks. Working under such strenuous conditions, more than 20 personnel have contracted the deadly virus. With their fellow personnel contracting the virus, the officers are now a worried lot.

Meanwhile, the infections have had an impact on trapping of wild animals like leopard and tiger, which are causing scare among residents in villages along the forest borders. Although a tiger was spotted in Veeranahosahalli Range more than 10 days ago, the Forest personnel had failed in trapping the tiger, as some of the staff got infected midway through the operation.

The Department had launched a combing operation using tamed elephants to nab the elusive tiger. But unfortunately, a total of 5 personnel, including 3 from Thithimathi STPF platoon and 2 of Handpost STPF platoon have tested positive. Besides, 4 personnel at Veeranahosahalli, 7 at Anechowkur, 2 at Nagarahole and one each at Metikuppe and Antharasanthe have tested positive for the virus.

With several staff getting infected, the National–level IFS Officers' Association has written to the Government on May 14 urging it to consider Forest personnel too as COVID frontline warriors.

Here in Karnataka, the State's Principal Conservator of Forests Sanjay Mohan has written to the Government regarding the same. This apart, Forest Minister Aravind Limbavali has written to the Health Minister to prioritise vaccination of Forest personnel.

Nagarahole National Park DCF Mahesh Kumar said that Forest staff are risking their lives for conserving our forests. Noting that it is the responsibility of the Department to ensure safety of staff, he said that the Government must consider the Forest staff too as frontline warriors and vaccinate them on a priority.

Obituary

Mohammed Shoiab

Mysuru, May 18- Mohammed Shoiab (45), a resident of Subhash Nagar (near Miraj Masjid), passed away yesterday night in Bengaluru. He leaves behind his wife, one son, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Namaz-e-Janaza and burial took place in Bengaluru this morning, according to sources.

Help pours in for the needy

Various organisations, individuals come forward to help

Suvarna Karnataka Chemists and Distributors Association General Secretary S. Manjunath, Sunil of S.P. Pharma, B.C. Satish of Lakshmidevi Medicals, Ashok of Ashoka Pharma and Krishna of Renuka Pharma handing over face shields and washable hand gloves to MDJA President S.T. Ravikumar as MDJA General Secretary M. Subramanya and City Secretary P. Rangaswamy look on.

Mysuru, May 18 (KS)- The State-wide lockdown by the Government following increase in COVID positive cases, has displaced many families, which had come to city in search of work and also to daily wagers, who depend on labour works to earn meals for their families.

Various organisations and individuals have come forward to help the needy and the poor by providing them food packets, ration kits and medicines to senior citizens, who are unable to go out during lockdown.

Many organisations are also helping Police and medical staff by providing PPE kits and other medical equipment.

Jago Mysuru, headed by M. Chethan has been delivering free home delivery of medicines, groceries, fruits and vegetables and other essential items to the doorstep of the needy.

Help could be sought from Jago Mysuru by calling Mob: 74114-38111, 97416-00940 or 98802-79707.

Sri Jana Jagarana Trust, working under the umbrella of RSS is also conducting various relief activities such as blood and plasma donation, tele-medicine services, ambulance, cremation of the departed, free food catering to those in home isolation and also distribution of groceries and other essential items to the needy. The Trust can be reached on Mob: 93421-17676.

While most organisations are taking care of the needs of those in home isolation, roadside vendors, labourers and the poor, Suvarna Karnataka Chemists and Distributors Association has provided face shields and washable hand gloves to journalists yesterday.

M. Chethan of Jago Mysuru seen delivering groceries to senior citizens in city.

A volunteer of Sri Jana Jagarana Trust and a RSS worker seen distributing tea and biscuits to a Home Guard in city.

Congress leader donates Oxygen Concentrators

Mysuru, May 18 (MTY&DM)- Contributing his mite for the Corona affected, Congress leader K. Harish Gowda donated Oxygen Concentrators and other medical equipment to COVID Mitra centres at a programme organised at Seth Mohandas Tulsidas Hospital on JLB Road here on Sunday.

Speaking on the occasion, Harish Gowda said that the deadly Coronavirus has pushed everyone to a lot of hardship. Noting that he was inspired by the appeals made by KPCC President D.K. Shivakumar and Opposition leader Siddharamaiah for help during COVID crisis, Harish Gowda said he has donated three Oxygen Concentrators, three BiPAPs and other medical equipment to the Hospital. Pointing out that the society has given him everything, he said that he was committed to give something back to the society as gratitude.

"I will serve the society more in the coming days under the guidance of Congress leaders of the district," he added.

Varuna MLA Dr. Yathindra Siddharamaiah, who along with H.D. Kote MLA Anil Chikkamadu handed over the equipment to MUDA Commissioner Dr. D.B. Natesh, said that the second wave of Corona attack is more aggressive than the first one, with many people losing their lives to the deadly virus.

Maintaining that most of the Hospitals in the city and district were facing shortage of beds, ICUs and ventilators, Dr. Yathindra lauded the efforts of Harish Gowda in donating life saving medical equipment in these critical times.

District Congress President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar, COVID Care Centre In-Charge Col. Ashok Kumar, Corporator J. Gopi, Dr. Bhargav, Dr. Ravi, TP member Kumar, leader Pailwan Mahadev and others were present.

Distribution of grocery kits to physically challenged

Mysuru, May 18- G.R. Anita Ravindra, a differently abled lady, recently distributed grocery kits to 30 physically challenged self-employed people, who are facing financial difficulties.

The distribution took place near LIC Office on CFTRI Road, Mysuru. Her husband M.S. Ravindra helped in co-ordinating the distribution.

Speaking to *SOM*, she said that they are not receiving their pension from the past four months and urged the Government authorities to look into it.

She also requested Good Samaritans and NGOs to extend help to the differently abled also during the pandemic times.

Officials told to ensure timely delivery of medicines to home isolated

Mysuru, May 18 (MK&DM)- Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda (GTD) has asked the officials to ensure timely supply of health kit and medicines to COVID infected patients who are in home isolation.

Addressing officials at a meeting held at Jaladarshini Guest House here yesterday, GTD instructed the officials to provide information on the need of more medicines to those who are in home isolation as the medicines supplied to them lasts only for a week. He also sought inputs on the number of masks, sanitisers that are required for distribution among the people for free and COVID treatment facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHC) coming under his Constituency.

Expressing concern over the Black Fungus, which is the latest variant of the deadly Coronavirus, he stressed on the need for sanitising every village in his Constituency.

Observing that home isolation in villages is a problem as there is want of space in houses, the MLA said that setting up isolation facilities at schools in villages. Highlighting the advantages of having isolation / quarantine facilities in schools, he emphasized on the need for taking measures in right earnest to prevent the outbreak of the possible third wave of attack of the deadly contagion. GTD also asked the officials to take care of themselves and their family members.

MCDCC Bank President and Karnataka Apex Bank Vice-President G.D. Harish Gowda, Tahsildar Rakshith, THO Dr. Mahadevaprasad, GRAM Executive Director Basavaraju and Nodal Officers of all the 15 PHCs coming under Chamundeshwari Assembly segment took part in the meeting.

KSOU employees donate one-day salary towards CM's relief fund

Mysuru, May 18- Employees, including teaching and non-teaching staff of city-based KSOU (Karnataka State Open University), have donated their one day salary to the Chief Minister's relief fund. The decision to donate salary was taken at a meeting of KSOU officials here on Monday.

In the wake of second wave of the deadly COVID-19 virus spreading across the State and some employees of KSOU being treated for the deadly virus at the COVID care centre set up in KSOU's Academic Bhavan at Mandakalli , it was decided to deduct one day wages in the month of May for Purchase of Oxygen concentrators and Oxygen Masks.

Accordingly, 10 Oxygen Concentrators and Oxygen Masks were purchased and handed over to Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri at her office here on Monday.

KSOU Vice-Chancellor Prof. S. Vidyashankar, Registrar Prof. R. Rajanna, Registrar (Evaluation) Prof. K.M. Mahadevan, Finance Officer Khader Pasha, Special Officer Prof. Devaraj, Deans Prof. Ashok Kamble and Dr. Shanmuka and others were present.

Free COVID test held at Kukkarahalli; 5 test positive

Mysuru, May 18 (PM&SSV)- Five residents of Kukkarahalli area tested positive for COVID-19 during free testing held here on Sunday under the leadership of Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra.

As per request by the MLA, the Health Department had organised a free RT-PCR and Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) for residents of Kukkarahalli during which five persons tested positive in RAT and were advised home quarantine immediately. The results RT-PCR test of others are pending.

In total, around 70 persons got tested for COVID-19. Nagendra gave away medicine kit to positive patients and asked them to take rest.

The MLA said the State Government has limited RT-PCR test to 50 per centre. But, Health Department can conduct more testing in the area for the sake of poor patients.

The testing was held at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Community Hall. Ward No. 21 Corporator C. Vedavati, Ramesh, Naveen Kukkarahalli and Chandru, all local BJP leaders were present.

Gejjalagere youth's murder case

Rowdy-sheeter among seven arrested by Police

Deceased Hemanth

Mandya, May 18 (Mohan Raj & KS)- Mandya District Police have arrested seven persons including a rowdy-sheeter in the murder case of Hemanth Kumar.

Hemanth Kumar was allegedly murdered by a group of youths on May 10 at Gejjalagere in Maddur Police limits.

Disclosing this at a press meet at the SP's Office on Monday, Superintendent of Police (SP) Dr. Ashwini said that the arrested are G.P. Indukumar alias Paawali, a rowdy-sheeter at Gejjalagere, Madhu alias Kappe of Mudugere in Channapatna, Nagaraju alias Naga, G.N. Mahadeva, Prasad alias Putta and M.S. Swaroop Gowda alias Swaroopa of Gejjalagere and Avinash alias Idli of Bilikere village in Channapatna taluk.

The SP further said that accused Indukumar, Prasad and Swaroop were arrested on May 16 evening near Mudugere Gate in Channapatna taluk of Ramanagar district, while Madhu, Nagaraju, Mahadeva and Avinash were arrested on May 17.

Continuing, Dr. Ashwini said that deceased Hemanth Kumar and accused Indukumar belong to the same village and the two had differences over KMF Milk Dairy tender process and added that on May 9 evening during a cricket match, a fight had taken place between Hemanth's friend Santosh and Indukumar.

On May 9, when Hemanth parked the Canter vehicle at KMF Dairy at Gejjalagere and was returning home along with his friend Sunil, accused Indukumar, Prasad and others, who were waiting for them in a car (KA-05-E-5094), rammed the car into the bike on which Hemanth and Sunil were riding, the SP said and added that as soon as Hemanth and Sunil fell from the bike, the car occupants armed with machetes hacked Hemanth and bludgeoned him to death with concrete bricks. As one of the wheels of the car got punctured, the accused had abandoned the car and had fled from the spot, the SP said.

The accused had also brutally assaulted Sunil and based on the complaint from Hemanth's father Srikanta, a Police team was constituted to trace and arrest the accused, the SP said and added that Malavalli Dy.SP Lakshminarayana Prasad, Maddur Circle Inspector B.R. Gowda, Sub-Inspector Naveen Gowda, Mohan and D. Patel took part in the operation.

The Maruti Swift car and three two-wheelers used for the crime have been seized, SP Dr. Ashwini said. Additional SP Dhananjay and others were present during the press meet.

Man succumbs to injuries at hospital

Mysuru, May 18 (MK&KS)- A 72-year-old man, who was admitted to a private hospital in city after he sustained serious injuries in a road accident yesterday, has succumbed to injuries at the hospital.

The deceased is K. Gopalaraju, a resident of Kakarawadi in Chamaraja Mohalla.

Yesterday morning, Gopalaraju was proceeding on his scooter towards Devaraj Urs Road from Santhepet side when a car coming from K.R. Circle side rammed into his scooter resulting in Gopalaraju suffering serious injuries.

Though he was rushed to a private hospital here, Gopalaraju succumbed to injuries at about 8.30 pm yesterday.

A case has been registered at Devaraja Traffic Police Station.

WORD OF THE DAY

Frugal

Pronunciation: FROO-gul.
Meaning: Characterised by or reflecting economy in the use of resources.
Origin: Those who are frugal are unwilling to (lavishly) enjoy the fruits of their labours, so it may surprise you to learn that frugal ultimately derives from the Latin frux, meaning "fruit" or "value," and is even a distant cousin of the Latin word for "enjoy" (frui). The connection between fruit or value and restraint was first made in Latin; the Middle French word that English speakers eventually adopted as frugal came from the Latin adjective frugalis, a frux descendant meaning "virtuous" or "frugal." Although English speakers adopted frugal by the 16th century, they were already lavishly supplied with earlier coinages to denote the idea, including sparing and thrifty.
Example: "Frugal diners might prefer hitting Ulrich's on Monday nights, when all burgers are $3 off. It's one of the best deals Downtown, or anywhere in town." — Nick Vlahos, The Peoria (Illinois) Journal Star, 1 Mar. 2021.

THE ODD WORD

Facinorous

Atrociously wicked.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Fool's gold

Meaning: Iron pyrite is a mineral that bears a resemblance to gold, but in terms of value, it does not compare. Some people have been fooled by it because they thought it was actual gold, hence it has been given the nickname "fool's gold."
Origin: Since people are sometimes fooled by the appearance of this mineral, it is also called "fool's gold." For a brief moment, let's look at what happened to an English seaman named Martin Frobisher. During the second half of the 16th century, Martin Frobisher made three trips to Canada. It was on his second trip that he found a mineral that he mistook as gold. He carried hundreds of tons of it back home with him on three ships and made a fine profit from it. Later, Frobisher returned to Canada, this time he had several additional ships accompanying him. He wanted to mine more of this "gold" and bring it back with him, and that's what he did. However, it was eventually figured out that this wasn't gold at all! It was actually iron pyrite, a worthless (in terms of value) mineral. Anyways, one of the earliest examples this phrase in print is from the year 1872. For example, in the newspaper Indiana Progress, in an article titled "Fool's Gold and How we may Know it," it reads: "There are several minerals which are sometimes mistaken for gold, but the two which are most apt to give rise to deception in this matter are pyrites and mica, and hence they are sometimes called fool's gold."

QUOTE BOX

Sometimes you don't quite realise what you have achieved until you look back. **—AB de Villiers**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer :Alice through the looking glass.

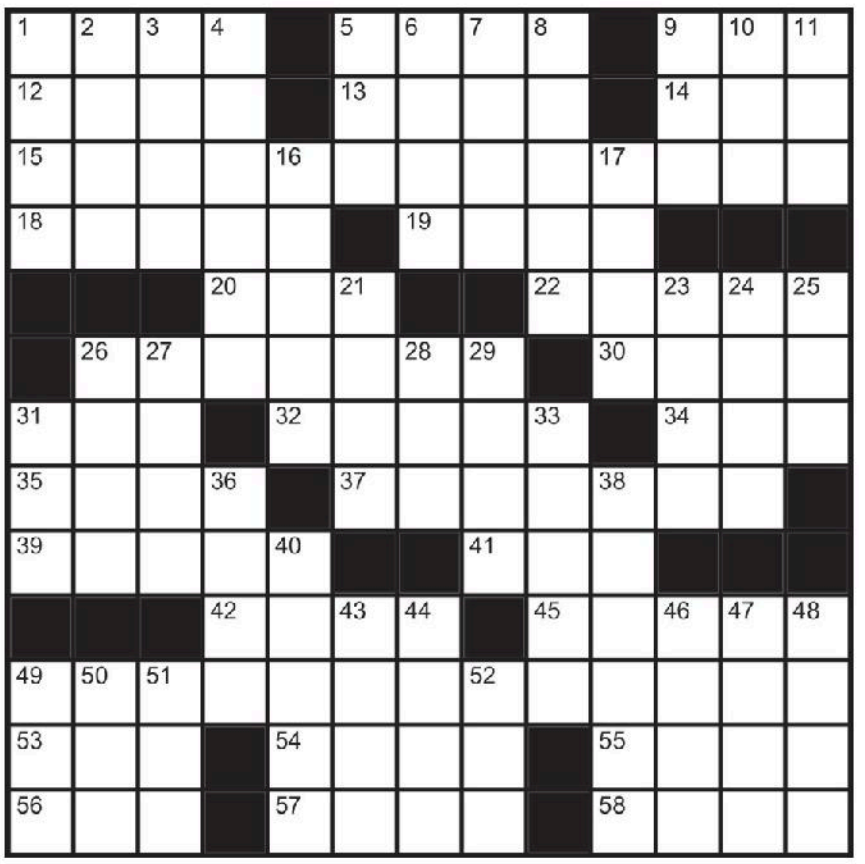
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Maori war-dance
5 Close
9 Letter before psi
12 By mouth
13 Doing nothing
14 Apply lubricants to
15 Happen on or come to by chance (7,6)
18 Alpine region
19 Makes as a profit after deductions
20 Cry convulsively?
22 Egg-shaped
26 Surprise very much!
30 Having various colours
31 Commonly used suffix - "Tin" anagram?
32 Wilt
34 Dead Letter Off.
35 Test of knowledge
37 Deteriorate
39 Spray of flowers
41 Uncle in Spain
42 Olfactory organ
45 Urbane or chic
49 Conditions
53 Donkey
54 Allergy irritant
55 French fry
56 Mona Lisa singer __ King Cole
57 A very long time
58 Like congers

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

M	E	M	O	■	S	T	E	P	■	L	E	V
S	L	A	P	■	I	A	T	A	■	A	V	A
L	O	C	I	■	C	U	S	T	O	M	E	R
■	■	H	U	L	K	■	■	I	T	A	L	Y
S	K	I	M	P	■	C	O	O	T	■	■	■
E	I	S	■	S	C	A	N	■	O	S	S	A
E	L	M	■	■	A	G	A	■	■	C	O	D
P	L	O	T	■	D	E	M	I	■	O	D	A
■	■	■	A	R	I	D	■	I	S	L	A	M
C	I	R	C	A	■	■	W	I	N	D	■	■
O	N	E	O	N	O	N	E	■	A	I	N	T
I	D	A	■	C	U	E	D	■	G	N	A	T
F	O	P	■	H	I	S	S	■	S	G	T	S

Down
1 Person throwing a party
2 Showily pretentious
3 Mandatory last name for a Sikh lady
4 Well nearly!
5 Nought
6 Kolkata's ___ Gardens
7 Wings or winglike parts
8 Right hand page of an open book
9 Dove-call
10 "H" in "HMV"
11 Instrument Landing Sys.
16 The vital fluid
17 Invitation request
21 Bit used in dentistry
23 Gives help
24 Far as a prefix
25 Old name for Tokyo
26 Bhajan maestro __ Jalota
27 Move around, in prison?
28 Notice of exception, abbr.
29 A stupid person
31 Binet-Simon test measurements
33 One of hundredth of a rupee
36 A metal
38 Swoop down
40 Dutch flat, round cheese
43 Conceited
44 To be (Latin)
46 Dull pain
47 Fabric face covering
48 Notice
49 Is able
50 Inertial Sensor Assembly
51 Alphabet trio
52 Time To Station, abbr.



SUDOKO

	2	1	3	7				
					1			9
			8	4				7
	9					8		2
2		5				7		3
3		7					5	
1				5	4			
9			2					
				8	6	3	4	

Answer to previous puzzle

7	5	6	1	2	8	4	3	9
4	3	8	9	5	7	2	6	1
9	1	2	3	6	4	8	5	7
6	9	1	7	4	3	5	2	8
3	4	7	5	8	2	9	1	6
8	2	5	6	1	9	7	4	3
5	8	9	4	3	6	1	7	2
1	7	3	2	9	5	6	8	4
2	6	4	8	7	1	3	9	5

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

IHGHJIXY TG WYH NIBXHGG BK EBTOE ZN

JDDHPG WB GHH TK WYHP JIH UDTOF.

TODAY'S CLUE: E EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on.

POSITIVITY UNLIMITED

'Awaken the inner strength to win over Corona crisis'

Sant Gyan Dev Singhji and Sadhvi Rithambaraji

On the fourth day of #PositivityUnlimited lecture series organised by COVID Response Team (CRT), Delhi, which has representation from all sections of society, on May 14, Spiritual Gurus Sadhvi Rithambaraji, Vatsalya Gram and Sant Gyan Dev Singhji, Shri Panchayati Akhara - Nirmal, called upon the people to invoke the rich spiritual tradition of India and thus awaken its inner strength to overcome the Corona crisis. They said that instead of feeling helpless in unfavourable conditions, this challenge can be overcome only by taking a resolve with a strong mind.

Sadhvi Ritambharaji said in her address, "The strength of a society is tested under adverse circumstances. In these adverse circumstances while our entire country is struggling with a strange pandemic, this is the time when we have to awaken our inner strength."

She said, "The biggest mountains can be moved by courage and determination. When the river flows, it has the ability to convert big rocks into sand. Therefore, feeling helpless in this challenging situation wouldn't resolve the crisis, you have to awaken your inner strength to meet this challenge."

She said that every crisis has a solution, but it comes to you only when you trust yourself and your God. With this trust and belief, we will overcome this epidemic.

"I want to request all Indians that instead of accusing others, everyone should awaken their self-confidence, self-restraint and self-determination."

In the midst of all these circumstances, if our power is used only in negative thinking, then the ability to do and to think of something new will vanish.

Sant Gyan Devji Maharaj said in his address, "There is no need to panic. It is not only Bharat, but the whole world is going through a transition phase. Nothing is unchanged in this world. If sadness has arrived, it isn't going to stay for long, it would go away as it has come. So, there is no need to panic."

He said, "If anyone gets infected, he should think about God, read Gita, read Gurubani. Keep your body healthy, your mind healthy. If you have won your mind, you have won over the world. If your mind is healthy, you will be healthy, there will be no effect on you."

He said that all those advises which are given by doctors during this pandemic have always been an integral part of Bharatiya lifestyle since ages. We can all stay healthy by following our rich cultural and spiritual tradition. Therefore, the need of the hour is that we identify these rich traditions and follow them in our lives.

This lecture series was broadcast on more than 100 media platforms from May 11 to May 15 at 4.30 pm daily. On May 15, RSS Sarsanghchalak Dr. Mohan Bhagwat addressed the nation.

'Exercise NCC Yogdaan'

60 cadets render voluntary service at Mysuru District COVID War Room

Kar Naval Unit NCC cadets manning the Helplines at District COVID-19 War Room.

Mysuru, May 18 - The Ministry of Defence has permitted temporary employment of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) under 'Exercise NCC Yogdaan' in the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Responding to the call given by Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri for voluntary service by the Senior NCC cadets of HQ NCC Group Mysuru, the modalities and safety angles were examined at the Group Headquarters by the Group Commander and Lt. Col. Ashok (retired), Officer-In-Charge of the District COVID Control Room (COVID War Room).

The requisition was processed through the HQ Karnataka and Goa Directorate to Director General NCC, New Delhi. All the processing was carried out via mail and within four hours the approval to employ the cadets with most precautionary measures was sanctioned.

One more meeting was held at DC's Office and the finer points were discussed for the deployment of the cadets. The Commanding Officers of the NCC Units which incorporate the Army, Navy and Air Force prepared their respective unit cadets and staff. The consent of their parents was obtained before their employment.

The selected volunteer cadets (in this case the girl cadets are more in number than the boys) were given the principal dose of vaccination before their deployment. A total of 60 cadets in three shifts are presently being utilised on an everyday schedule from 8 am to 6 pm which has now been increased to twelve hours from 8 am to 8 pm.

The District Administration has contributed immensely by providing various safety measures against COVID-19.

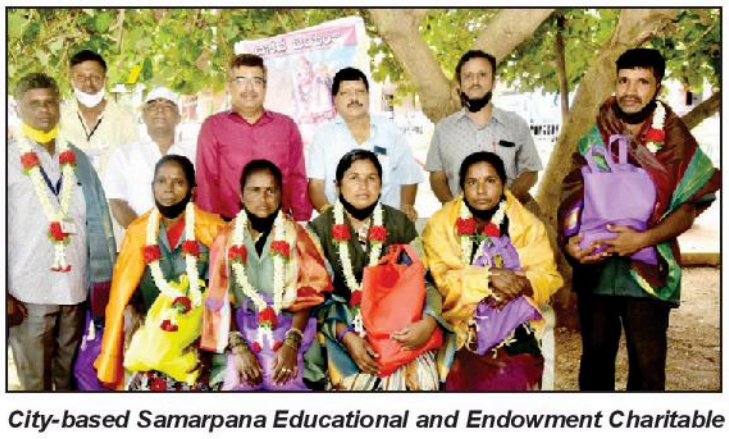
Before this at the National level, NCC was earlier employed extensively during the 1965 and 1971 conflicts as the second line of defence. However, NCC has been contributing immensely during all the disaster management.

Colonel Rakesh R. Menon, Group Commander, NCC Group Mysuru, expressing his gratitude to the parents of all volunteer cadets and also of those cadets in waiting, has thanked the Heads of the Schools and Colleges of these cadets.

He has also lauded the Deputy Commissioner and the supporting staff for providing this opportunity to the youths to serve the citizens in times of crisis.

3 Kar Girls NCC Bn cadets attending to calls at Mysuru District COVID War Room.

Trust felicitates civic workers



City-based Samarpana Educational and Endowment Charitable Trust felicitated civic workers on the occasion of Basaveshwara Jayanthi on May 14. They are seen with Annapoorna Clinic Senior Medical Officer Dr. Adarsh, Dr. Rajkumar Abhimanigala Sangha Founder-President M.Ramegowda, social worker C. Krishnegowda, Trust Treasurer and Lecturer Rajendraprasad Honnalagere, G.P. Harish and Manjunath.

War Room, COVID Mitra of no help for this ASHA worker

Frontline Warrior runs from pillar to post in search of hospital bed for husband

ASHA workers submitting a memorandum to an official at T. Narasipur Taluk Office this morning seeking better services for frontline workers.

Mysuru, May 18 (MTY&BCT)- The second wave of COVID-19 crisis has meant risky and longer hours of work for frontline workers, doctors and the Police who are exacerbated by unsafe working conditions, hostility from their communities, and minimal compensation or support from the authorities. So much so that even if their loved ones contract the killer disease, there is no one to help.

An ASHA worker from T. Narasipur had to run from pillar to post to admit her COVID-infected husband, who was facing breathing difficulties, into a hospital in Mysuru. She even travelled to Mandya hiring a private cab in search of a bed and had to beg for treatment.

This incident comes at a time when higher officials, elected representatives and Ministers are claiming almost every day that all is well in Mysuru and bed management system has been streamlined. So pathetic the situation is that even an ASHA worker cannot secure a bed for her husband despite being a frontline worker.

ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) workers, mostly underpaid, are tasked with over 50 responsibilities, some of which include COVID awareness, vaccination, community health awareness, maintaining records of children, counselling women on pregnancy and birth preparedness, and helping community access healthcare facilities. Kanyakumari, an ASHA worker from Chamanahali village at Bannur was at the frontline, efficiently discharging her duties.

Her husband, 42-year-old Swamy contracted the disease two days back and on Sunday night he was facing severe breathing problems and his oxygen saturation level was hovering between 80 and 84. Swamy was a diabetic and Kanyakumari made desperate calls to the Mysuru District War Room and got unsatisfactory replies that did not cater to her immediate needs. She then approached COVID Mitra and here too she faced difficulties in accessing a bed and was asked to go back and put Swamy in home isolation as his condition was not serious.

Calls to War Room, visit to COVID Mitra

First she tried for a bed in jurisdictional T. Narasipur Taluk and later Mysuru where she was asked to isolate her husband at home. "I was desperate as his oxygen saturation level was rapidly falling below 85 and his sugar level was more than 200. His health was deteriorating and I could not keep him at home as I live in a small house with a single washroom," Kanyakumari said.

She visited COVID Mitras after her desperate calls to the War Room yielded nothing. "They said we will be contacted, but no one did and my husband's condition was bad. And we took him to Seth Mohandas Tulsidas Hospital in Mysuru but they refused admission though there are beds reserved there for frontline warriors and their families," she said.

To Mandya in a cab

She approached some Private Hospitals in Mysuru but they demanded advance payment of more than Rs. 50,000 to admit him and Kanyakumari could not even think of giving such an amount. Desperate to save her husband, she took a cab to Mandya but had to return as the doctors there refused admission as the patient was from Mysuru.

After her ordeal was raised by fellow ASHA workers and their Union, Mysuru authorities assured a bed here. But when Kanyakumari took her husband to the designated COVID-19 Hospital, a bed was refused. Finally, after another round of intervention by the Union with the Narasipur Taluk Health Officer, her husband was shifted to T. Narasipur Taluk Hospital where he was given an oxygenated bed.

Protest planned

Following the incident, the colleagues of Kanyakumari and the Union had planned a protest in front of the T. Narasipur Taluk Office this morning. But as there is no permission for protests, they submitted a memorandum that states that if the same attitude of the administration continues, they will be forced to stop work. A memorandum was submitted to the Taluk Office.

P.S. Sandhya, State Treasurer of Karnataka Rajya Samyuktha ASHA Karyakartheyara Sangha and Manjula, an ASHA worker at Bannur said that if today Kanyakumari has faced such an ordeal, tomorrow the turn might be theirs. "We are putting our lives at risk and officials talk about how smooth hospital admission and reaching medical care is. But the reality is far from truth. We health workers are showered with praises all the time but when it comes to our own health and the health of our family members, we don't get any help," they regretted.

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